CHAIRMAN: Jim McDermott

Thank you for discussing this important issue!!!! Long-term unemployed NEED your help. We, the unemployed, have lost our jobs due to no fault of our own and still cannot find work. We need a Tier 5 Unemployment Extension and we need your help to urge members of Congress to muster the "political will" for action..

Every dollar received by the unemployed goes right into the economy. We don't have "extra money" to invest in Stocks, Bonds, Gold or a Savings Account.

I will be applying for Food stamps and SSI if a Tier 5 is not created I fear I will never get off these programs, what I really want is a job!!!!!!

J. Barbara Aveni

In the editorial "American Jobbery Act" (May 25), the Journal questions my assertion that unemployment benefits are an effective form of economic stimulus by asking, "Where do they teach this stuff?" Well since you asked, I thought I'd answer: I learned it from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office and Mark Zandi, economic adviser to Sen. John McCain's presidential campaign, both of whom have said unemployment benefits are good for the economy.

Without the extension of the unemployment program included in the jobs bill, 1.2 million Americans will lose unemployment benefits by the end of June. Starving these people will not help them find a job, and certainly won't help the economy. Cutting their benefits will drastically reduce their ability to buy goods from their local stores and pay their mortgage or rent. How could anybody in their right mind think that would be good for the economy?